



Muscogee (Creek) Nation

George P. Tiger
Principal Chief

Executive Office

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL CHIEF ON THE RESIGNATION OF THE SECOND CHIEF

It is with much regret that I report to the Citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that Second Chief Roger Barnett has plead guilty to charges brought by the U.S. Attorney's Office, and has resigned today with the effective date of October 9, 2014. This administration allowed the legal and administrative process to take its course before making this statement to the citizens of our great Nation. I ask that you pray for him and his family during this difficult time. It is a time that our actions and words as a Nation shouldn't pierce the heart, but our actions and words be one of healing.

As I stated previously, the Nation will continue to exercise fiscal responsibility and adhere to all financial rules, policies, accounting principles, and the laws our Nation has adopted to protect the integrity of our tribal funds.

Second Chief Barnett's resignation creates a vacancy that will need to be filled. According to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution at Article V §1.(c), "In the event of a vacancy of the Office of Second Chief, an election shall be held within sixty (60) days to fill the Office of the Second Chief unless it happens within the last six months of the term in which case the term would remain vacant until the next election." I have corresponded with the Election Board Office to start the process of calling a special election. As soon as the details are finalized I will relay the information to our citizens and issue a proclamation announcing the date.

The Nation has been challenged by this unfortunate situation; however, our strong communal values established by strong traditions and culture will allow us to endure. We are not just a corporate organization, but rather a family bound by our ties of our ancestors. As a Nation, we will persevere just as our forefathers did and continue to be stronger than ever.